

Message Text

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12

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 EB-11 L-03 COME-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 AID-20 DRC-01 /093 W

----- 111844

R 101854Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6393

INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL PARAMARIBO

C O N F I D E N T I A L PORT OF SPAIN 1092

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRD CU TD GY NS

SUBJECT: US SANCTIONS ON SHIPS TRADING WITH CUBA

1. LOCAL SHIPPING COMPANY HAS APPROACHED EMBASSY FOR INFORMATION REGARDING US SANCTIONS ON SHIPS IN TRADE WITH CUBA. THE FIRM (REGISTERED IN ST. VINCENT, SHIPS ARE UK FLAG VESSELS) NOW IS ENGAGED IN CONSIDERABLY REGIONAL SHIPPING, INCLUDING PORTS IN FLORIDA AND US GULF COAST. COMPANY HAS BEEN ASKED TO AID ONCARGOES TO AND FROM CUBA AND GUYANA, SURINAM AND TRINIDAD. WHILE INTERESTED IN THIS BUSINESS, FIRM DOES NOT WANT TO LOSE ABILITY FOR ITS SHIPS TO CALL AT US PORTS AND ACCEPT CARGO FROM US SHIPPERS.

2. ONLY INFORMATION AVAILABLE HERE ON THIS SUBJECT IS A-1959, MARCH 5, 1973, REFERRING TO AN OAS MFM RESOLUTION RECOMMENDING THAT OAS MEMBERS NOT SHIP GOVERNMENT-FINANCED CARGOES NOR PROVIDE BUNKERS TO SHIPS IN CUBA TRADE. ACTION REQUESTED: PLEASE SEND SUCCINCT TELEGRAPHIC STATEMENT SUMMARIZING CURRENT US POLICY ON THIS SUBJECT. WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE REFERENCES TO MATERIALS OUTLINING LEGAL ASPECTS OF THIS MATTER. DOES USG ATTITUDE EXTEND BEYOND OAS RESOLUTION DESCRIBED ABOVE?

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3. COMMENT: ACCORDING TO SHIPPING FIRM, THERE ARE MODEST

TRADE PROSPECTS BETWEEN CUBA AND THREE STATES MENTIONED ABOVE.
INQUIRER SAID THAT MOST TRADE APPEARS TO BE ON BARTER BASIS,
CITING EXCHANGE OF PLYBOARD AND HARD WOOD FROM SURINAM FOR
CEMENT FRO CUBA. HE COULD SHED NO LIGHT, HOWEVER, ON WHICH
ITEMS MIGHT BE INVOLVED IN CUBA-TRINIDAD TRADE.
MILLER

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 10 MAY 1974
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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30 JUN 2005

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